

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 15, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. Claims 13-20 have been canceled. Claims 21-26 are newly added. Claims 1-12 and 21-26 are pending in the application.

The rejection of claims 1-4 and 7-10 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Alegre et al is respectfully traversed. In the method and system of claims 1 and 7, an object associated with the Session ID is stored dynamically in a directory on a directory server coupled with the authorization server. The directory server permits other computer applications launched by the computer user to reference the Session ID on the user's computer. The other computer applications access the object for the computer user on the directory server to authenticate or authorize the user for the other computer applications. The ability of additional applications to authenticate or authorize directly with the directory server achieves important advantages such as reducing network overhead.

Alegre et al fails to teach all the claimed limitations or their equivalents. Alegre et al attempts to increase security for data on a trusted network by using a key that must be present with each and every request for information received from the remote user. Not only must the key be present with the request, but after being passed through a dmz web server the request must be handled by an access server in the trusted network which verifies the validity of the key by checking with the key server. The key checking of Alegre et al requires two objects (a speaker object and a listener object) for validating the key within each request. Since a network application that may be accessed by a user in Alegre et al cannot directly authenticate to a directory server containing an object with the user's authentication information, for every access to the network the speaker object, the listener object, the access server, and the key server must all be invoked. The user information retrieved by the access server does not persist (i.e., is not stored) in the listener object for any subsequent data request from the remote user. When a subsequent request is received, Alegre et al repeats the

exact same key checking process even if the request is a repeat request for the same data already retrieved with the same key. Thus, Alegre et al fails to teach a directory server that permits other computer applications launched by the computer user to reference the Session ID on the user's computer, followed by the other computer applications accessing the object for the computer user on the directory server to authenticate or authorize the user for the other computer applications. Therefore, claims 1 and 7 are allowable over Alegre et al.

Claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 are allowable as further limiting patentable claims 1 and 7.

Claims 4 and 10 recite that the Session ID is based on a date on which the computer user launched the computer application, a time in which the computer user launched the computer application, a TCP/IP address of the computer user, or a user name of the computer user. Alegre et al suggests only a 64-bit or larger random number for use as a session key (column 6, lines 56-59). Therefore, claims 4 and 10 are not anticipated by Alegre et al.

The rejection of claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alegre et al in view of Hartman et al is respectfully traversed. Hartman fails to correct for the deficiencies in Alegre. Therefore, claims 5, 6, 11, and 12 are allowable.

New claims 21-26 further specify dynamic directory services used by the other applications to access the object stored in the directory server. These are neither shown nor suggested by any cited references, and claims 21-26 are likewise allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, claims 1-12 and 21-26 are now in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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